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DROITWICH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1971

DROITWICH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

1971 - 1972

Chairman of the Council

J. WYTHES, ESQ., J.P.

Vice-Chairman

F. GRIFFIN, ESQ

Members of the Public Health Committee

Chairman - Mr. C. D. Cooper
Vice-Chairman - Mr. S. Wheelton, C.C.

Messrs. B. H. Bomford, Gp.Capt.A.R. deSalis,O.B.E.,D.L.
D. Feather, J. E. Hartwright, S.E.Powick, C.Richardson,
J. B. Stone and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman
of the Council (Ex Officio)

Public Health Officers of the Council

L. Spencer Stephens, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.,M.F.C.M.,
R. F. Fry, M.I.P.H.E., M.R.S.H., A.M.I.P.C., M.A.P.H.I.
Engineer & Surveyor, Chief Public Health Inspector.
D. G. Carter, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Deputy Engineer & Surveyor,
Public Health Inspector.
K. J. Ramsden, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Additional Public Health
Inspector.
M. Johns, M.A.P.H.I., Additional Public Health Inspector.

Rural District Council Offices,
31 Ombersley Street,
DROITWICH,
Worcs.

Tel: Droitwich 2288.

August 1972.

To the Members of the Public Health Committee

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the health of the district for the year ended 31st December 1971. I have suggested to Mr. Fry that he should now be writing this report as Environmental Health functions will clearly be in the hands of the Chief Public Health Inspector from the date of Local Government Re-organisation.

It is now clear that the Medical Officer of Health has been redesignated "Community Physician" and will be transferred to a united National Health Service on the same day (1st April 1974). These changes will result in an upheaval for everyone and unfortunately at this time the district authorities are unable to agree with each other and it is impossible to set-up a Joint Committee for the new District 7 until the Boundary Commission have reconsidered the matter.

I merely wish to point out at this stage that I shall no longer be involved directly in Local Government but my work will be organised around the catchment area of one or other of the district general hospitals in Worcester/Hereford County area.

The population of the district has been reduced by 950 persons. This is in accordance with the 1971 Census which must be accurate whereas the mid-1970 estimate by the Registrar General was merely an intelligent guess based on the 1961 figures.

The Report reveals no startling changes and I leave it for your perusal.

I remain, Mr. Chairman,

Your obedient servant,

L. SPENCER STEPHENS,

Medical Officer of Health.

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SECTION A

VITAL STATISICS

Area in Acres	50,127
Registrar General's estimate of resident population mid 1971	15,010
(mid 1970)	15,960)

Live Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	97	100	197
Illegitimate	6	1	7
Total			204

Illegitimate live births as percentage of total live births	3%
Standardised birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population	14.3
Birth rate for England and Wales	16.0

Still Births	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still birth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	10
Still birth rate for England and Wales	12

Deaths	Males	Females	Total
From all causes	78	81	159

Standardised death rate per 1,000 estimated population	11.3
Death rate for England and Wales	11.6

Deaths of Infants under one year			
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks			
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Deaths of Infants under one week			
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	20
Infantile Mortality rate for England and Wales	18
Neonatal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	20
Neonatal Mortality rate for England and Wales	12
Early Neonatal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	20
Early Neonatal Mortality rate for England and Wales	10
Perinatal Mortality rate per 1,000 total births	29
Perinatal Mortality rate for England and Wales	22
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)	Nil
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births ..	Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1971

(according to B. Classification - 50 main causes)

		Males	Females
B 6 (1)	Late effects of Respiratory T.B.	1	-
B18	Other Infective and Parasitic diseases	-	1
B19 (3)	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	1	2
B19 (4)	Malignant Neoplasm, intestine	5	5
B19 (6)	Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	2
B19 (7)	Malignant Neoplasm, breast	-	1
B19 (8)	Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	-	3
B19 (9)	Malignant Neoplasm, prostate	1	-
B19(11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	-	7
B46 (5)	Other Diseases of Nervous System	-	1
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	1
B27	Hypertensive Disease	2	1
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	25	13
B29	Other forms of Heart Disease	1	6
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	14	16
B46(6)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	2	9
B32	Pneumonia	1	4
B33 (1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	7	-
B46 (7)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	1
B46 (8)	Other diseases of Digestive System	-	2
B46(11)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	2
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc., ...	3	1
B45	Symptoms and ill defined conditions	-	2
BE47	Motor Vehicle accidents	3	-
BE48	All other accidents	2	1
BE49	Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	2	-
	TOTAL ALL CAUSES	78	81

S E C T I O N B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

FOR THE AREA

A. County Health Services

The following services are provided by the County Council in accordance with Part III of the National Health Service Act 1946 -

i) Care of Mothers and Young Children (Section 22)

The District is served by the following clinics -

Child Health Clinics

Norbury House, Friar Street, Droitwich - open every Tuesday and Friday at 2 p.m.

Memorial Hall Ombersley - open on the 1st and 3rd Fridays in the month at 2 p.m.

Parish Hall, Hanbury - open on the 3rd Thursday in the month at 2.30 p.m.

Village Hall, Crowle - open on the 4th Wednesday in the month at 2.30 p.m.

Memorial Hall, Fernhill Heath - open on the 2nd and 4th Fridays in the month at 2 p.m.

Village Hall, Wychbold - open on the 1st and 3rd Mondays in the month at 2.30 p.m.

Parish Hall, Hartlebury - open on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays in the month at 2.30 p.m.

National Dried Milk, Cold Liver Oil, Orange Juice and other baby foods may be obtained at these centres. A doctor is usually in attendance; a fully qualified Health Visitor is always present.

Antenatal Clinics

It is now County policy that antenatal cases should be cared for as far as possible by their own doctor. Clinics are available however, at which expectant mothers are encouraged to attend regularly in order to meet the midwife, receive health education and carry out antenatal exercises under the direction of a physiotherapist.

Norbury House, Friar Street, Droitwich - open 2nd and 4th Thursdays in the month at 2 p.m.

Recreation Road, Bromsgrove - open every Monday at 2 p.m.

Health Centre, Kidderminster - open every Monday at 2 p.m.

(ii) Midwifery (Section 23)

The services of a County midwife are available without charge to care for mothers during pregnancy, confinement and for a period of ten days afterwards. She should be booked as early as possible in order to receive adequate instruction for the confinement. Visits are paid to the home and examinations carried out monthly in co-operation with the doctor, who will arrange hospital consultations if necessary. Free dental treatment is available during this period and may be arranged through the County Dental Officer.

(iii) Health Visiting and Home Nursing (Sections 24 and 25)

After the first ten days the Health Visitor takes over responsibility for the care of the baby from the midwife. She is a trained nurse who has received additional instruction in child care, maintenance of health and prevention of disease, and is able to offer guidance to the mother until the child goes to school. Particular attention is paid to premature babies and those placed for adoption or with foster parents. The Health Visitor also acts as school nurse and being an experienced medico-social worker is able to give advice to the adult members of the family on personal problems related to physical or mental ill-health.

The District Nurse is available to act on the instructions of the general practitioners or hospital and when a patient is discharged to make arrangements for domicillary care. She carries out nursing procedures and may be called upon in an emergency. In most instances the District Nurse is also the Midwife and acts as Health Visitor but in urban areas it is sometimes more convenient to split their duties.

Four Health Visitors work from the Royal George Buildings, Droitwich - Tel: No.: Droitwich 3328 covering various parts of the Rural District around the town, viz :-

Mrs. J. Reece, Miss B. Britton, Miss U. Eldridge and Miss T. Mann.

Also the following nurses operate from their homes where they may be contacted unless off-duty when the telephone number of the relief nurse is left at the door. This is particularly important for obstetric emergencies :-

Miss C. Mills, DN/M/HV - 14 Appletree Walk, Ombersley Tel.No.Ombersley 341

Miss E. Williams DN/M/HV - Nurses House, Droitwich Road, Hanbury Tel.No. Hanbury 209

Mrs. E. Cracklow DN/M - "Kooternay", Froxmere Road, Crowle Tel.No. Upton Snodsbury 497

General Practitioner attachment schemes now exist for the parishes adjoining Stourport and Bromsgrove.

(iv) Vaccination and Immunisation (Section 26)

Vaccination against Measles and Poliomylitis and Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus are carried out free of charge at any of the County Clinics or by the patient's own doctor. Smallpox vaccination is no longer advised as a routine procedure.

The following inoculations were completed during 1971 (figures in brackets relate to the previous year)

1. Smallpox Vaccination

Number of persons who received primary vaccination	33	(110)
" " " " were re-vaccinated	9	(8)

2. Poliomylitis Vaccination

Number of children who received a full course	104	(129)
" " " " " a reinforcing dose	84	(176)

3. Diphtheria Immunisation

Number of Children who received a full course	105	(120)
" " " " " a reinforcing dose	97	(227)

4. Tetanus Immunisation

Number of Children who received a full course	105	(123)
" " " " " a reinforcing dose	106	(233)

5. Whooping Cough Immunisation

Number of Children who received a full course	78	(77)

6. Measles Vaccination

Number of children who received a primary dose	87	(187)

7. German Measles Vaccination (13 year old schoolgirls)

No. of children who received a primary dose	84	(N.A.)

(v) Ambulance Service (Section 27)

Emergencies are responded to irrespective of the source of the call. All that is necessary is to ask the telephone operator for Ambulance after dialing 999. The Service is under radio control from Worcester and ambulance stations are strategically situated throughout the County.

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Requests for hospital cars should be made to the County Ambulance Officer, who will decide whether this form of transport is suitable. Patients suffering from infectious diseases are conveyed to hospital in special ambulances.

(vi) Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care (Section 28)

Convalescent care is provided for children and adults requiring treatment. This type of recuperative holiday is frequently recommended and persons are required to contribute according to their means. Medical comforts depots are maintained in various parts of the County by the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society. Requests for nursing equipment, such as bedpans, pulleys, hoists, etc., should be made to the District Nurse or County Health Department.

Persons suffering from Tuberculosis may be assisted in many ways. Tuberculosis Health Visitors work from the Chest Clinic and will assist patients to make the best use of services available. Occupational therapy is available for patients suffering from lengthy illnesses or who are undergoing prolonged convalescence.

A chiropody scheme is now in operation for aged and handicapped persons, and is being extended. A Health Education Officer has also been appointed to provide instruction on health matters in an attempt to reduce illness. This is particularly important in relation to accidents in the home, food hygiene and cancer.

(vii) Family Planning and Cervical Cytology Clinics

These Clinics are held in conjunction with each other at the County Clinic, off Infirmary Walk, Worcester. Appointments are provided on a Monday evening and an open clinic is held on a Wednesday (6.30 p.m. to 8.0 p.m.) In the Droitwich area it is better to make arrangements through the Health Visitors at Royal George Buildings. (Tel: Droitwich 3328).

(viii) School Health Service (Education Act 1944)

The County Medical Officer is also Principal School Medical Officer. School Medical Officers visit all Primary and Secondary schools in the district at regular intervals.

Every school child receives three medical examinations during his or her school life, but children in whom abnormalities are detected are seen frequently. Special visual acuity and colour tests are given at 7 - 8yrs. of age, children in need of attention being referred to the School Oculist.

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Routine testing of hearing is now carried out using a pure-tone audiometer and children with defective hearing are referred to special clinics for further investigation.

The services of a Speech Therapist are available and orthopaedic defects are kept under supervision by the Orthopaedic Sister. Children with behavious disorders or other problems are seen at the Child Guidance Clinic, Love's Grove, Castle Street, Worcester.

(ix) School Dental Service

The Dental Health of all children in maintained schools is supervised at regular intervals, inspections being carried out on the premises. Subsequently treatment is carried out at the nearest fixed clinic, or in one of the mobile clinics now available. Clinics are available at Bromsgrove, Stourport and Kidderminster.

(x) County Analyst

The County Analyst is available to examine public water supplies, sewage effluent, milk, food and drug supplies. The arrangements for the routine sampling of all milk supplies is in the hands of the County Public Health Inspector.

B. The Socail Services Department

The new Social Services Department became operative with effect from 1st April 1971 and in Worcestershire four area offices were opened. Droitwich comes under the Bromsgrove Area (County Offices, Windsor Street, Bromsgrove - Tel: 75331) but staff are also available at certain times at the Royal George Buildings, Droitwich. The Social Services have been formed from an amalgamation of the Welfare Department, Children's Department and Mental Health Section of the Health Department, together with added functions, e.g. Home Helps, Child Minders and the operation of the disabled Persons' Act 1970.

C. Hospital Services

These services are administered by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.

1. General hospitals with casualty departments are situated at Worcester, Bromsgrove and Kidderminster.

2. Maternity beds are available at Worcester, Bromsgrove and Stourport.

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3. Infectious diseases are usually admitted to Newtown Isolation Hospital, Worcester where beds are also available for the treatment of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

4. The elderly and chronic sick are accommodated at Shrub Hill, Worcester, Bromsgrove or Blakebrook, Kidderminster.

5. Psychiatric Hospitals for mental disorders are available at Powick, Barnsley Hall and Lea Hospital, Bromsgrove.

6. St. John's Hospital and Highfield Hospital, Droitwich are National hospitals for the treatment of rheumatic diseases.

7. A thoracic surgery unit has been established at Hill Top Hospital Bromsgrove, dealing mainly with congenital heart lesions in children.

8. Laboratories are available in all general hospitals, but at Worcester Royal Infirmary a branch of the Public Health Laboratory Service has been established. This organisation, with reference laboratories in London and elsewhere, is designed to assist local authorities in their investigations into outbreaks of communicable disease.

9. Venereal Diseases are diagnosed and treated at a special out-patient department at the Worcester Royal Infirmary. Sessions are held from 5 - 7 p.m. on Mondays (both sexes - separate departments) on Thursdays 2 - 4 p.m. (women) and Fridays 2 - 4 p.m.(men)

D. General Medical Services

Persons arriving in the district and wishing to register with a general practitioner may obtain a list of names and addresses of all the doctors available at any post office.

The services of dentists, opticians and pharmacists practicing in the district come under the control of the Worcestershire Executive Council, 29 Foregate Street, Worcester to whom enquiries should be made.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water Supplies

The East Worcestershire Waterwork Company are the statutory water undertakers for the greater part of the Rural district. Their supply is extracted from six different boreholes on the side of the Licky Hills and by the time the supply reaches the Rural District it is often mixed. None of the boreholes provides very hard water or that having a plumbo-solvent action.

Fluoridation was commenced about two years ago and so far fluoride levels have been rather low, not reaching the desired 1 part per million required to prevent dental caries. A chemical and bacteriological sample from one of the boreholes taken on 7th December 1971 is shown below :-

Sugerbrook Pumping Station
(Nos. 3 & 4 boreholes)

Physical Characters		
Colour	None	
Odour	None	
Deposit	None	pH 7.4

Chemical Examination (Results expressed in parts per million)

Suspended Matter (Dried at 100° C)	-
Total Dissolved Solids (Dried at 180° C)	165
Chlorine Present as Chloride	13
Hardness Non-Carbonate	26
" Carbonate	110
" Total	136
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	trace
Albuminoid Nitrogen	trace
Nitrate Nitrogen	5.4
Nitrite Nitrogen	nil
Permanganate Value (4 hours at 27° C)	0.05
Toxic Metals	non detected
Total Residual Chlorine	nil
Fluorine	-
Synthetic Detergents (as Manoxol)	-
Phosphates (as PO_4)	-
Free Carbon Dioxide (CO_2)	6.

Bacteriological Examination

Number of colonies developing upon Agar	
a) in two days at 37°C	5 per one ml.
b) in three days at 22°C	18 per one ml.
Probable Number of Coliform Bacilli	nil per 100 ml.
Probable Number of Faecal Coli	nil per 100 ml.

OPINION :- The sample is fit for drinking - County Analyst.

Hartlebury Parish is supplied from Stourbridge by the North-West Worcestershire Water Board who decided in 1968 to re-open a local borehole at Waresley. The result of the Public Enquiry held on 16th April 1968 was recorded in my 1968 report. The water was not brought into service until December 1970. Sampling of the source of supply during the year showed it to be satisfactory. Total Hardness averages 320 p.p.m. and Nitrate Nitrogen has settled at 16.5 p.p.m. On no occasion has Coliform organisms been found.

The Secretary of State for the Environment in answering a petition from the parishioners in December 71 indicated that after thorough enquiry he considered the water to be fit for human consumption. The North West Worcestershire Water Board has been asked to find an alternative source of supply and hope to do so in 2 - 3 years.

Eighteen bacteriological samples were taken from shallow wells at the request of owners/or occupiers of property. Nine (50% were UNFIT for drinking and appropriate advice given.

2. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Very little progress was made in this sphere during the year. The Cutnall Green Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme had been completed and was operating satisfactorily. Likewise the improvements made to the Fernhill Heath Sewage Works helped greatly and provided satisfactory samples.

The Consulting Engineers were instructed to continue their preparatory work on the schemes listed in July 1970 as being of top priority, viz -

(a) Bradley Green and Stock Green
(b) Himbleton, Earls Common and Sale Green
(c) Ladywood
(d) Martin Hussingtree.

3. Refuse Collection and Disposal

The Refuse Collection Service has contined to operate satisfactorily with a weekly collection in all built-up areas and a fortnightly service in the more remote parts of the district.

The acquisition of a new site for tipping at Hanbury Wharf Brickworks has assisted greatly the problem of Refuse Disposal. There are two large marl holes here which should last the Borough and Rural Districts for about thirty years. Preliminary work on clearing the site, providing access and removing flood water has been completed and controlled tipping is now in operation on the eastern side of the site.

4. Public Health Inspections

The following routine inspections were carried out by the Public Health Inspectors during 1971 -

A. Housing Act 1957		
Section 9 (Repairs)	84	
Section 16 (Unfit Premises)	52	
Section 42 (Clearance area)	-	
Section 76 (Overcrowding)	-	
	136	(173)
B. Public Health Acts 1936 and 1961		
Nuisances from Premises	33	
" " Animals	9	
" " Refuse	42	
" " Dust, Effluvia	52	
" " Workplaces	-	
" " Noise	4	
	140	(147)
C. Drainage Problems (Sewage and Water)		
Obstructions	40	
Cesspools and Septic Tank	35	
Ditches	82	
Drainage Tests	19	
Inspection of Wells and Water Samples	52	
Pollution of Rivers, etc.,	-	
	228	(253)
D. Food and Drugs Act 1955		
Slaughterhouse	160	
Bakehouses	16	
Shops	18	
Cafes	19	
Vans	15	
Other Food Premises	13	
Ice Cream and other Food Samples	15	
	256	(241)
E. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963		
Inspections	6	(5)
F. Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960		
Residential Sites	54	
Holiday Sites	15	
Camping Sites etc.,	2	
Unauthorised Caravans	122	
	193	(198)
G. Other Inspections	54	(53)
GRAND TOTAL	1013	(1070)

(N.B. figures in brackets relate to the previous year)

5. Rodent Control - 1971

Regular inspections of dwelling houses and business premises are carried out throughout the district. Quite a number of agricultural contracts are held and treatment under such agreements form no small proportion of the work.

The analysis of work carried out under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 is as follows :-

Properties other than sewers	Type of Property: Non-Agricultural	Type of Property: Agricultural
1. Number of properties in District	5000	748
2. a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	455 (280)	34 (24)
b) Number infested by (1) Rats	115 (80)	18 (2[illegible])
(2) Mice	28 (10)	3 (-)
3. a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	2261 (815)	102 (123)
b) Number infested by (1) Rats	367 (84)	37 (22)
(2) Mice	89 (9)	- (-)

4. Sewers

Number of Sewers infested by Rats during the year - 2 (Nil)
(figures in brackets are for the previous year)

N.B. Rodent Operator off sick during 1970 and figures for 1971 are not exceptional.

6. Factory Inspections - 1971

The Factory Act 1961 places duties on the local authority in relation to sanitary provisions in all factories and to environmental and hygiene provisions in those factories not using mechanical power.

There is also a duty to discover cases where Outwork has been placed following which information is obtained from the factory concerned.

Part I of the Act

(1) Inspection for purposes of provision as to health -

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	No of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
a) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	-	-	-	-
b) Factories not included in (a) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the local authority	32	5	-	-
c) Other premises in which Sec.7 is enforced by the local authority (including out-workers premises)	30	5	-	-
TOTAL	62	10	-	-

(2) Cases in which defects were found .. .. NIL

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork - Nil Return.

SECTION D

HOUSING

1. Housing Programme

a) Council Houses

No. of new dwellings completed by the 31st December 1971 - NIL

No. of families on Council House Waiting List at 3.12.71 - 204

b) Private Houses

i) No. of Private Dwellings completed during 1971 -

4 bedroomed	- 6
3 "	-72
2 "	- 3
Total	= 81

c) Improvements and Conversions to private houses during 1971- (figures in brackets relate to the previous year)

i) Discretionary Grants

Application received	45	(48)
" approved	44	(46)
No. of dwellings involved	46	(46)
Applications withdrawn or refused	1	(2)
Total amount of grant-aided work	£93,481	(£76,802)
Amount of grants approved	£36,242	(£31,984)
Average grant per dwelling	£788	(£695)
Amount of grant paid during the year	£27,452	(£12,828)

ii) Standard Grants

Applications received and approved	17	(17)
Maximum grants payable	£4,519	(£3,929)
Amount of grants paid during year		(£5,506)

2. Slum Clearance - 1971

		Total since 1955
Notices of Time and Place served	3	230
Demolition Orders served	4	179)
Closing Orders served..	1	)
Undertakings accepted from owners . ..	0	35
Deferred pending negotiations	1	16
Demolished	1	91
Clearance	-	27

The Target set for the five year period from 1969 - 73 inclusive was 10 dwellings to be demolished per annum. The figure is likely to be much lower now due to the marked increase in Improvement Grant applications which have more than trebled in the last three years.

3. Overcrowding (Part IV Housing Act 1957)

(a) (i) Number of dwellings statutorily overcrowded at 31st December 1971 - 2
(ii) " " families dwelling therein .. .. - 3
(iii) " " persons dwelling therein .. .. - 25

(b) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .. ... - 0
(ii) " " persons concerned in such cases .. .. - 0
(iii) " " houses again overcrowded after previously so relieved - 0

(c) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .. ... - 0

4. Caravans

Following the initial survey carried out under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960 and the second complete survey carried out in 1968, it appears that the number of caravans in the district is decreasing due to caravan dwellers accepting housing accommodation in the area. A good example of this is the case of the Chateau Impney site where there were originally 32 caravans and now only 4 remain.

However the problem of unauthorised sites is still considerable so the Council is proceeding with the development of their site at Hampton Lovett and work on this site commenced in July. The site is for 50 caravans and when ready the pitches will be offered first to residential caravan occupiers on unauthorised sites in the area which cannot become authorised sites for planning reasons. This should make a substantial contribution towards the elimination of unauthorised sites in the Rural District.

Some progress has been made in improving amenities on authorised private residential and holiday sites in the district, especially on the "Clarelands" site at Hartlebury. A notable exception to this is the "Eagle and Sun" site at Hanbury where negotiations, which have been going on since 1968, have still not produced tangible results.

As regards gypsies, improvements are still required at the private sites in the western half of the district where the gypsies are engaged periodically in agriculture but the most pressing problem is for a site in or near the Stourport area for those gypsies engaged in urban activities.

S E C T I O N E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Food Premises

The following categories of Food Premises are found in the Rural District :-

Butchers Shops	1
Bakehouses	3
Cafes	7
Food Shops	46
Food Factories	1
Clubs, Hotels and Licenced Premises	54
Total =	112

Inspections carried out are shown on page 13 and have increased somewhat over the previous year. The standard of hygiene achieved throughout the district is considered to be satisfactory and hand-basins and sinks are provided for the washing of food and equipment in most premises as shown below :-

Food Hygiene Regulations 1970

(i)	number of premises	109
(ii)	" " " fitted to comply with Regulation 18 ..	93
(iii)	" " " to which Regulation 21 applies	108
(iv)	" " " fitted to comply with Regulation 21 ..	106

2. Meat Inspection

There is one licenced Slaughterhouse in the district at Ombersley, the Public Health Inspectors have a rota for inspection and 100% of carcases are always inspected. 1857 animals were inspected during 1971 compared with 1,793 the previous year but very little disease was found.

Further details are shown on page 20.

3. Milk and Dairies and Ice-Cream

The Milk and Dairies Regulations are mainly administered by the County Public Health Inspector. There are two pasteurisation plants in the District and the following samples of milk were taken from a variety of sources during 1971 -

Pasteurised Milk	40	(29)
Sterilized Milk	2	(1)
Raw (tuberculin tested)	2	(13)
Total =	44	(43)

(figures in brackets relate to the previous year)

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One sample failed the methylene blue test and appropriate action was taken.

There are fifty-nine premises registered for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream, all being food premises as list in Section E.1 and inspected during routine work. A number of samples are taken from time to time, particularly when power-cuts occur.

4. Food and Drugs

Worcestershire County Council are the Food and Drugs Authority for the district. Food and Drugs (Weights and Measures) Inspectors operate from Fernhill Heath, submitting samples to the County Analyst who reports his findings quarterly to the County Health Committee.

5. Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963

One Licence was renewed under the Act. These premises have now been open for four years. They comprise one block of sixteen kennels and a second block has recently been completed.

6. Meat Inspection - 1971

	Cattle including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	152	-	1215	490
Number inspected	152	-	1215	490
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	9	Nil	35	20
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	6.13%	Nil	2.88%	4.08%
Tuberculosis only Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	6
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	1.2%
Cysticercosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

S E C T I O N F

Incidence of Infectious Diseases

The following table shows the incidence of Infectious Disease in relation to age in the Rural District during 1971 -

Disease	Under five years	5 - 15	16 - 25	Adult	Total
1. Scarlet Fever	1	9	-	-	10
2. Measles	14	26	1	-	41
3. Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-
4. Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-
5. Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-
6. Acute Poliomylitis	-	-	-	-	-
7. Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-
8. Enteric Fever	-	-	-	-	-
9. Acute Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-
10. Infective Jaundice	-	2	-	3	5

Tuberculosis 1971

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register are as follows :-

	Respiratory		Non -Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F
Cases on the Register at 1st January 1971	14	5	1	1
Additions - New Cases	-	1	-	-
Deductions (recovered, died or left district)	5	6	-	1
Cases on the Register at 31st December 1971	9	-	1	-

B.C.G. Vaccination

The County Council operate a scheme for the preventive inoculation of all children leaving school (at 12 - 13 years old). This is a valuable protective measure against Tuberculosis and is doing much to reduce the number of cases on the Register.

After-Care Committee for South Worcestershire

One meeting of this Committee was held at the Shire Hall during the year. Not a great deal of work has been done as the number of cases requiring assistance has been falling annually. Never-the-less, the Tuberculosis Health Visitors do find cases whose needs are outside the scope of the statutory bodies and then turn to the Committee whose help is greatly appreciated.

THE END.